水野英多

なんとなんとの
ドラマCDが出ました。
スゴイ！

スパイラル
推理の絆
5

作：城平　京
画：水野英多

GANGAN COMICS

GC スパイラル 推理の絆 5

作 城平京
画 水野英多

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エニックス

GC ガンガンコミックス

GC ガンガンコミックス 既刊好評発売中!!

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悪魔事典	1
1/Nのゆらぎ	
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ドラゴンクエスト幻の大地	全10巻
南国少年パプワくん	全7巻
スターオーシャンセカンドストーリー	全7巻
清村くんと杉小路くんと	全4巻
ヴァルキリープロファイル	全2巻

●品切れの時は本屋さんに注文して下さい。

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日本一元気なエンターテインメントコミック!!

スパイラル 5

推理の絆

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GANGAN COMICS

スパイラル

推理の絆

5

作／城平京　画／水野英多

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Chapter 20:
Victory Belongs To The Smarter Side

I HAVE REPLACED THE CAN OF GASOLINE WITH WATER.
HIYONO-SAN WON'T BE ABLE TO GET HERE IN TIME WITH THE KEY.
OTOUTO-SAN'S CHANCES OF BEING RESCUED ARE ZERO.
SO HE NO LONGER HAS A CHANCE TO SURVIVE.
I WILL NOT DIE.
IN THESE LAST THREE MINUTES...
I WILL SHOW YOU A MIRACLE!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

I'LL LEAVE THE COUNT DOWN OF THE BOMB TO YOU.
SOUND EFFECT "PAM"
14 27
NOW THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS THAT WILL SAVE ME.
THE FIRST IS...
Fire hazard
No smoking
SFX: DOKA

I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF COMPASSION!
YOU DISARM IT.
THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN!
!
WHY DON'T YOU THROW THE DISARM SWITCH AWAY?
THEN,
OR BREAK IT UPON THE ROCKS NEARBY.
YOU COULD THROW IT INTO THE RIVER,

IF YOU REALLY WANTED TO KILL ME,
WHY NOT GET RID OF THAT SWITCH?
YET YOU'RE STILL HOLDING IT CAREFULLY.
.....
THAT'S
.....
YOU ARE HESITATING,
STILL WONDERING WHETHER TO KILL ME OR NOT.

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU EXPECT OF ME,
OR WHAT MY BROTHER IS PLANNING.
BUT I'M SURE ABOUT ONE THING.
I AM CERTAIN THAT YOU ARE TESTING ME.
IF I PASS THE TEST, YOU WILL RESPECT MY STRENGTH
AND WON'T TRY TO KILL ME AGAIN.
LOOKS LIKE I PASSED THE PRELI-MINARY TESTS ALREADY.
BUT THIS TIME YOU FAILED.
SO YOU MUST DIE NOW!

YOU WOULD SURELY KILL ME.
IF I WERE TO CRY AND BEG YOU
OR BE NERVOUS AND AFRAID,
EXACTLY.
DON'T BELIEVE I WILL DIE.
HOWEVER RIGHT NOW I...
WITHOUT ANY LOGIC OR REASON,
I ABSOLUTELY BELIEVE THAT.

I REMEMBERED HOW MY BROTHER SAID
"THE POWER OF BELIEF CAN CHANGE EVEN FATE".
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT, RIO?
DO I SOUND LIKE A PERSON THAT IS ABOUT TO DIE?

I'M THE ONE WHO DECIDES WHETHER HE LIVES OR DIES.
...BUT
AS LONG AS THIS SWITCH IS IN MY HANDS, AS LONG AS I DON'T PRESS IT, OTOUTO-SAN WILL DEFINITELY DIE.
.....
WHY
DO I FEEL SO UNCERTAIN?

I WILL NOT PRESS IT!
THAT IS MY RESOLVE.
I'M NOT MAKING AN EXCEPTION FOR YOU!
I OFTEN WANTED TO DIE
I'VE SUFFERED SO MUCH THAT
BUT EVERY TIME MY WILL HELPED ME TO SURVIVE.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
I WILL NOT PRESS THE SWITCH!

.....
Ah.
NO.
I STILL HAVE ONE.
YOU HAVE NO BACKUP PLAN.
WELL THEN
THERE IS ONLY ONE THING THAT CAN SAVE ME NOW.
MAYBE I WILL GET EXTREMELY LUCKY,
THAT THIS BOMB WILL FAIL TO EXPLODE.

HEH, WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
YOU MUST BE JOKING!
THIS KIND OF THING ALMOST NEVER HAPPENS.
NO MATTER HOW METICULOUS YOU ARE
IN MAKING AND CHECKING THEM...
THE POSSIBILITY STILL EXISTS THAT A MISTAKE WAS MADE.
I MADE THAT BOMB MYSELF.
IT WILL NEVER MALFUNCTION.

THE CHANCE OF ME SURVIVING IS PROBABLY ONE IN A BILLION
MAYBE IT'S THIS TIME.
IS HE SERIOUS?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IF IT WERE KIYOTAKA-SAN, THIS COULD HAPPEN.
BUT ...
HE ALWAYS HAD THE BEST OF LUCK.

COULD IT BE...
KIYOTAKA'S LITTLE BROTHER POSSESS THE SAME GREAT LUCK?
.....
LITTLE GIRL,
THERE'S ABOUT ONE MINUTE LEFT

LET'S ALL WITNESS THIS MIRACLE TOGETHER!

10 SECONDS LEFT.
I WILL NEVER PRESS THE SWITCH.
DON'T WORRY, CONTINUE YOUR COUNTDOWN!
.....
7
6

ZERO!
4
5
3
2
1

THE BOMB DIDN'T GO OFF!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
へたっ
WHAT?
SFX: "PAN"
WHAT A COINCIDENCE.
すく
EVEN I WAS SURPRISED.
SEEMS LIKE
MY LUCK IS LIKE THAT OF MY BROTHER.
ALL THAT CAREFUL PLANNING AND DETERMINATION...
AND I LOST TO OTOUTO-SAN?

NO, I DON'T BELIEVE THIS. I WON'T SURRENDER!
SFX AH!
DON'T TELL ME...

OTOUTO-SAN, DON'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP!
YOU ALMOST FOOLED ME.
THIS WATCH... IS THE ONE THAT YOU GAVE ME.
I THOUGHT SO!
IT'S NOT 2:30 YET.

I DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD PULL OFF SUCH A DEVIOUS TRICK
YOU PURPOSELY ACTED CALM AND CONFIDENT TO DISRUPT MY THINKING,
SO THAT I COULDN'T TELL THE RIGHT TIME.
THEN YOU GAVE ME THE WATCH THAT'S AHEAD BY TWO MINUTES,
AND LET ME DO THE COUNTDOWN.
THEREFORE THE BOMB WOULD NOT EXPLODE EVEN IF THIS WATCH SAID 2:30.
YOU WANTED TO MAKE ME BELIEVE THAT THE BOMB REALLY DID MALFUNCTION.
IN MY SURPRISE, I WOULD DROP THE SWITCH.

AND DISARM THE BOMB.
THEN YOU COULD SEIZE THIS CHANCE TO COME NEAR ME,
SNATCH THE REMOTE, PRESS THE DISARM SWITCH,
EVEN IF I DIDN'T DROP THE SWITCH, I WOULD HAVE DROPPED MY GUARD.
BUT,
I STILL SAW THROUGH IT IN THE END
AND SO, IN THIS GAME, I WIN!
AS ABSURD AS THIS PLAN IS,
YOU COULDN'T HAVE PULLED THIS OFF WITHOUT COURAGE AND INTELLIGENCE.
YOU WERE PRETTY GOOD!
...TO BE EXPECTED FROM THE LITTLE BROTHER OF KIYOTAKA-SAN.

ポチャ
ピシッ
THIS TIME...
YOU WILL DIE FOR SURE!
ANY LAST WORDS?
.....

TEN SECONDS MORE AND I WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THAT SWITCH.
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WOULD FIGURE IT OUT SO QUICKLY.
TOO BAD.
WHY CAN'T I...
BE LIKE MY BROTHER?

ONLY ONE FINAL MINUTE LEFT.
REALLY?
I GUESS I'LL PRAY.
"AH... GOD!"
"PLEASE HELP THIS PATHETIC HUMAN BEING!"

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS GOD.
!?

LOOK!
HERE COMES AN ANGEL!
OH NO!
THE 2:30 TRAIN TO SHUMORI STATION,
WILL PASS THIS IRON BRIDGE BEFORE 2:30.
WHAT IF HIS CLAIM THAT HIYONO WENT BACK TO GET THE TAPE WAS A TRICK?
WHAT IF SHE IS ON THAT TRAIN TO SHUMORI STATION?

MY PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED.
NARUMI-SAN!

HALLE-
LUJAH.

DISARMED SUCCESS-FULLY!
ぱっ
SFX CLICK
ピッ
すたすた
PHEW
へな～～
I THOUGHT THAT I WAS REALLY GOING TO DIE!

I'M BACK!
ASAZUKI, LET ME TELL YOU SOME GOOD NEWS
HIYONO.
NARUMI-SAN WON.

JUST A COUPLE OF SECONDS BEFORE THE BOMB EXPLODES!
YES.
I WAS REALLY WORRIED THAT YOU WOULD FIND OUT.
SO YOU WERE BETTING ON THIS MOMENT ALL ALONG?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, EVERYTHING THAT I'VE DONE TODAY...
WAS TO DECEIVE YOU FROM MY TRUE PLAN.
PLACING THE GASOLINE CAN,
AND ACTING CONFIDENT AND THEN DESPERATE
RETRIEVING THE TAPE
this is the real one actually
IT WAS ALL DESIGNED TO TRICK YOU.

MAYBE MY BROTHER WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SKILLED,
BUT I'VE TRIED MY BEST.
THIS KIND OF THING...
I DON'T WANT TO EXPERIENCE IT AGAIN.

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Gensokyo &
Minna-scan
presents

SPIRAL
~Suiri no Kizuna~

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CHAPTER 21: GOOD NIGHT SWEET HEARTS

I THOUGHT HE TOLD YOU I WOULD BE IN SHIMARI STATION...
SO DIDN'T HE TELL YOU TO GET OFF AT THE NEXT STATION TOO?

NOW THAT IT'S AT AN END, YOU WON'T TRY TO CATCH ME RIGHT?
HE DID TELL ME, BUT...
WHO KNOWS
I NEVER KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO GIVE UP.
THOSE WHO CAN'T EVEN KEEP THEIR PROMISES ARE BAD PEOPLE

BUT RIO-SAN IS DIF-FERENT, RIGHT?
!!!
IF RIO HAS ACCEPTED HER DEFEAT
THEN I'LL DO THE SAME THING.
... THAT'S RIGHT

I'VE COM-PLETELY LOST..
...I LOST.
...DON'T PUT ON THAT FACE.
WHEN IT COMES TO POWER, YOU'RE BETTER.

I COULDN'T RISK MY LIFE FOR MY WILL OR MY PRIDE.
I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE THE SLIGHT-EST TRUST IN MY POWERS.
IF I COULD RUN AWAY, I WOULD RUN AWAY,
I WAS ALWAYS A COWARD THAT WAS ONLY LOOK -ING FOR A SAFE PLACE.
THE TRUTH IS...
EVEN NOW I CAN'T STOP SHAKING -.
I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE POWER TO STAND UP.
I'M SO PATHETIC.
...WHA

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...!?
THERE ARE NO COINCI-DENCES OR MIRA-CLES!
YOU COULD ONLY DO THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE STRONGER THAN ME!!
EVEN SO,
WHY...

PLEASE WIDEN YOUR HEART!
PLEASE STAND STRONG!
WHY ...
DON'T YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF...?
SO PLEASE BELIEVE IN THAT POWER ...
YOU WON.

.....
I'M ALIVE RIGHT NOW
JUST BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T USE YOUR FULL POWER.
...LAST TIME...

YOU WERE RIGHT TO THINK OF ME AS PATHETIC.
YOU SAW THROUGH ME SPLEN-DIDLY.
BECAUSE OF THAT PATHETIC CHARACTER I CAN'T GROW UP.
WITH THAT SAME THINK-ING, I PRE-DICTED A WAY TO GET THE KEY.
JUST LIKE A COWARD ...
BECAUSE THOSE WERE THE SAFEST AND MOST RELIABLE METHODS ..
BUT YOU
PROBABLY THOUGHT I WAS ACTING LIKE MY BROTHER.

YOU'VE MISTAKEN ME FOR MY BROTHER
WHO ALWAYS TAKES RECKLESS BETS AND MAKES THEM INTO GREAT SUCCESSES.
SO YOU GOT CONFUSED
AND DIDN'T SEE THE OBVIOUS METHODS.
ON A NORMAL OCCASION YOU WOULD HAVE SEEN THROUGH IT.
IF IT'S ABOUT POWER, IT'S MY LOSS.
IT'S JUST THAT I GOT LUCKY.
IN THE FIRST PLACE, MY ACTIONS WERE PREDICTABLE.
I SENT THE TAPE IN THE POST.
I ACTED THROUGH DESPERATION SO THAT TAPE COULDN'T BE STOLEN.

I HAD NO FUTURE IN THE GAME.
I'VE DESPERATELY THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD DO AFTER THAT.
I WAS CONFUSED BY YOUR POWERS, OTOUTO-SAN.
IT WASN'T LUCK!

YOU HAD KIYOTAKA-SAMA'S SMILE UNTIL THE END.
WASN'T IT TO SHOW US YOU WERE CALM?
YOU SHAKE SO MUCH BECAUSE YOU WERE DISMAYED BY THE GAME.
BECAUSE YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO STOP THE OTHER SIDE FROM GETTING POINTS.
PLEASE DON'T
DENY THAT COU-RAGE!
...IF IT WAS MY BRO-THER, HE WOULDN'T SHAKE.

... IF IT WAS YOUR BROTHER..
.....
THIS PERSON, HE CAN DO IT!
HE MIGHT GET TO THE PLACE WHERE KYOTAKA-SAMA COULDN'T.
HE MIGHT EVEN CHANGE FATE...
.....

!?
HEY!
WHAT HAP-PENED ?!
HEY
!!

THAT'S RIGHT!
THIS GIRL STILL NEED TO REST...
I'LL CALL AN AMBU-LANCE RIGHT--
AAAH!
HEY! GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF!!
!?

WHA-WHA-WHA-WHA-WHAT IS THAT NARUMI-SAN?!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME
AND I FIND YOU HERE FLIRTING LIKE THAT!
T... THAT'S SO DIRTY!
BAKA!! DON'T MISUN-DER-STAND!!
YOU ARE THE WORST !!
WHAT AM I MIS-UNDER-STANDING HERE?! YOU'RE DISGUST-ING!!
TSK
ASA-DZUKI !!
CALL AN AMBU-LANCE QUICKLY!

HER WOUND HAS FULLY OPENED !!
Hatsuchi Rio

...SO YOU REALLY BEAT RIO THIS TIME...
I WAS AMAZED.
.....
...EVEN IF.. YOU HAND RIO OVER TO THE POLICE
SHE WON'T SAY A THING
BECAUSE A MATCH IS SACRED FOR RIO.
AS SHE HAS LOST, SHE WOULD BE ARRESTED QUIETLY
SHE WOULD PROBABLY ADMIT KILLING IMAZOTO, BUT...

JUST TELL ME WHERE MY BRO -THER IS.
IN THE END SHE WON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE BLADE CHIL- DREN.
I DON'T CARE WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE YOU GUYS ARE...
...SORRY BUT I DON'T KNOW THAT!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
BECAUSE HE JUST CONTACTS US ONCE IN A WHILE.

IT'S CERTAIN THAT I'M RUNNING AWAY
BECAUSE I'M A BAD PERSON COMPARED TO RIO
I'M NOT GONNA BE ARRESTED EASILY.
ALSO, YOU CAN'T STOP ME BY USING THAT TAPE.
.....
I'LL CATCH YOU NEXT TIME WE MEET.
CRY
OW !?

CUUUU
!!
WHO
WHO IS IT ...
EYES RUTHER -FORD !!

RIO HAS LOST.
I SEE ...
.....
...YOUR BEING HERE MEANS THAT...
I'M ONE OF THE BLADE CHILDREN TOO.
RIGHT!

...I SEE
SO THAT EXPLAINED HOW YOU HAD A PLAN LIKE THAT WITH THE MAGIC SQUARE BOMB.
.....
WHA
DON'T TURN RIO OVER TO THE POLICE.
NA RUMI~ OTOU~ TO!
WITH-DRAW FOR NOW!
?!
IT SEEMS YOU'VE BECOME A PERSON WE CAN USE FOR A LITTLE.

I PROMISE THAT IF YOU WITHDRAW, THAT GIRL WILL UNDERSTAND AND WON'T CAUSE ANY HARM TO YOU NEXT TIME.
...!
...WHAT DID YOU SAY?
DIFFERENT FROM ASADZUKI'S CASE, THIS TIME I HAVE PROOFS OF THAT GIRL'S CRIMES.
USING THAT AS A STARTING POINT, YOU WILL BE TRACKED DOWN TOO.
YOU CAN HOLD THE TAPE FOR SAFETY TOO.
DON'T MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME!
AND WHY WOULD I CARE?
IF YOU DON'T GIVE UP ON RIO, THE CONNECTION WE HAVE WITH KIYOTAKA WILL BE REVEALED TO THE POLICE.
YOU REALLY THINK THAT SUCH A DEAL WILL WORK?

IS IT OKAY FOR THEM TO KNOW THAT WE, WHO ARE CRIMINALS, HAD A STRONG CONNECTION WITH KIYOTAKA?
.....
NA-RUMI-SAN!
IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE, YOUR BROTHER WILL BE CHASED BY THE POLICE TOO!
I DON'T MIND.
MY BROTHER IS A PERSON THAT CAN WIN, EVEN IF THE WORLD WOULD GO AGAINST HIM.
EVEN IF HE BECAME A WANTED CRIMINAL, HE'D SOMEHOW TAKE CARE OF IT BEFORE THEY START SEARCHING.
IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T MIND..

!!
BUT DON'T YOU THINK THERE IS ONE PERSON WHO'LL END UP HURT?
MY SISTER-IN-LAW!
THAT'S RIGHT... IF MY BROTHER BECOMES A WANTED CRIMINAL, MY SISTER-IN-LAW WILL...
.....
IF YOU WITHDRAW, WE'LL DEFINITELY KEEP OUR PROMISE.
WE SWEAR ON THE NAME OF NARUMI KIYOTAKA.

.....
<3
...THE DEAL STARTS
NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU OR MY BROTHER GO...
RU-THER-FORD!

WHAT AM I TO YOU GUYS?!
IT'S NOT TIME FOR YOU TO KNOW YET
EVEN-TUALLY KIYOTAKA WILL TELL YOU.
.....

...DOING THIS...
DO YOU THINK RIO WILL BE HAPPY?
.....
DON'T YOU REALIZE ?!
THAT YOU'RE THE ONE HURTING RIO'S PRIDE?!

WE
CAN'T LOSE RIO'S POWERS RIGHT NOW.
.....?
A CHANGE IN THE "HUNTERS" SIDE HAS STARTED.
SOON... THE MOST TROUBLESOME PERSON WILL COME TO JAPAN.
...COME TO JAPAN ...
YOU FAILED TO PERSUADE HIM?!

ALL OF THE BLADE CHILDREN WILL BE HUNTED.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING QUICKLY...
.....
POSSI-BLY...
WE'LL NEED TO BORROW NARUMI-OTOUTO'S POWERS...

WHY DID YOU COME HERE?
... THAT'S RIGHT ...
I FORGOT TO BRING IT WITH ME YES-TERDAY.
BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD WAKE HER UP.
.....

...WE DIDN'T CATCH RIO-SAN BUT...
IN THE END, WE WON!
AND OUR SAFETY WAS GUARANTEED
ALL BECAUSE OF THE NEWLY REFORMED NARUMI-SAN.
SHUT YOUR MOUTH FOR A LITTLE BIT!
WHA
SOMEONE IS HERE TO COMFORT YOU AND YOU...
HA
I'M SO TIRED.
I'M ALREADY-WORN-OUT!
HUH?
... IT MUST BE OKAY NOW.
LEND ME YOUR SHOULDER FOR A WHILE.

HUH
AH- WHA.. ?!
I HAVEN'T SLEPT FOR TWO DAYS
JUST.. LET ME SLEEP FOR A WHILE
.....
...THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY..
NA- RUMI- SAN!

SOME-
WHERE
IN ENG-
LAND...
Eyes
Let's perish
together...

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Gensokyo &
Minna-scan
presents

SPIRAL
~Suiri no Kizuna~

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HuangSon13a@yahoo.com.vn
HoangSon_VN (chan)

CHAPTER 22:
DRIED EYES

HHHHHH!
FOR YOU TO DIE IN A CAR CRASH...
MO-THER ...
IT WAS SO SUDDEN.
.....

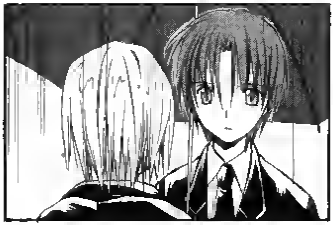
スッ
EYES
.....
...JEEZ, I'M NOT A KID ANY -MORE...
IT'S BETTER TO CRY WHEN YOU WANT TO.

EVEN I, WHO IS YOUR CHILD-HOOD FRIEND,
HAVE NEVER SEEN YOU CRY.
...IT'S OKAY TO SHED TEARS ONCE IN A WHILE.
ハァ…
BUT
THEY'LL BECOME NORMAL IF I SHED THEM.

AND IN THE END,
MY HEART WILL BE EMPTY.
...NOT BEING ABLE TO CRY IN HARD TIMES
IS NOT A SAD THING.

.....
... EYES
YOU'RE TOO SOFT.
THAT'S WHY...
YOU SHOULD CRY.

EVEN IF WE'RE THE BLADE CHILDREN
IN ORDER NOT TO LOSE SOMETHING IMPORTANT ...
...CRYING WON'T HELP AT ALL.
ALSO, FOR THE COMING SHOWDOWN WITH FATE
I'M BETTER OFF A DEMON, WITH NO BLOOD OR TEARS.
BUT...
IN MY PLACE, YOU...



YES
I WILL!

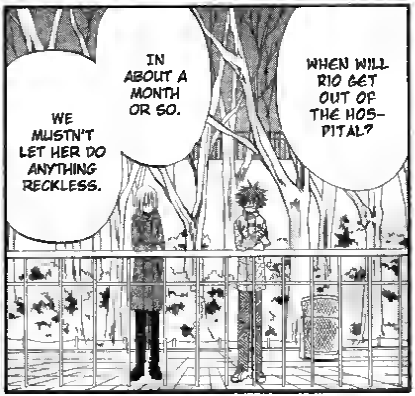
SO THAT'S ENOUGH.

WILL BE WITH ME
AND WILL CRY FOR ME, RIGHT?

LET'S GO, KANONE!
IF YOU'RE WITH ME
I WON'T LOSE WHAT'S IMPORTANT.
Even if the two of us will be within the darkness, together we'll go on without losing our way...
Wha
WHAT HAPPENED, RUTHERFORD?

...NO
IT'S NO-THING!

SO...
WHEN'S HE GOING TO COME?


WHEN WILL RIO GET OUT OF THE HOS-PITAL?
IN ABOUT A MONTH OR SO.
WE MUSTN'T LET HER DO ANYTHING RECKLESS.

IN ABOUT 2-3 WEEKS.
HE'S GOING TO REGISTER AT TSUKIOMI SCHOOL
I SEE.
SO, HE'S JUMPING RIGHT INTO THE "HUNTING GROUNDS" ...?
YES.
IT'LL PROBABLY BE HARD TO DEAL WITH HIM.
IT'S A NIGHTMARE.
...DAMN
FOR HIM TO TURN INTO AN ENEMY ...

...EASY FOR YOU TO SAY.
THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO?
NOT REAL -LY.
IT WAS EXPECT -ED!
MEOW
MEOW ~~

A STRAY CAT.
Hmm, exactly.
な
な
ゴソ
ぎょ
SO WHY DO YOU HAVE DRIED SARDINES IN THERE?
THERE ARE THESE KINDS OF DAYS, TOO
IS YOUR POCKET A MAGIC POCKET?
GET REAL!

...WHEN HE SAYS THOSE KINDS OF DAYS
WHAT KIND OF "DAYS" DOES HE MEAN?
Meow
Meow
Fly
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT GUY...

KANONE HILBERT, LOVES CATS....

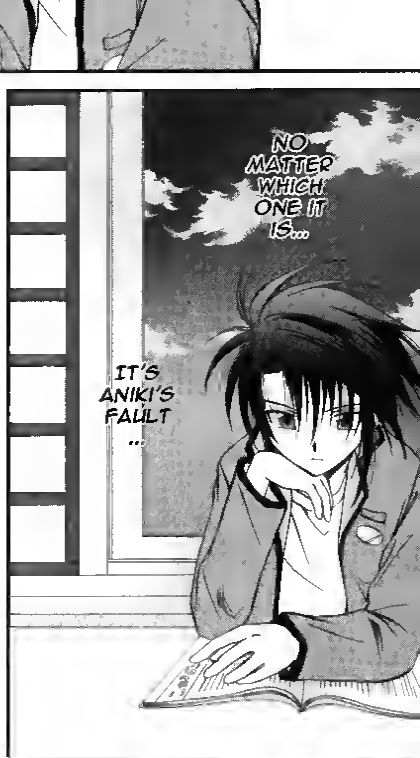
ぼろ
ぼろ
ぼろ

I'm tired, Patrash ...
HI~IN
HA~
END
... WHY AREN'T YOU CRYING, NARUMI-SAN?
.....

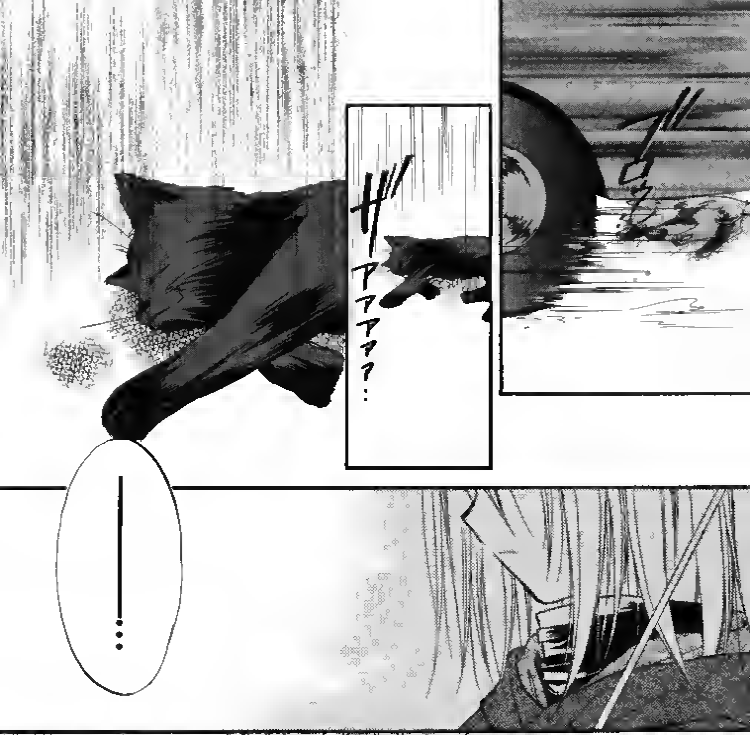
I THINK THAT IT'S A MOVING STORY, BUT...
IT'S NOT SAD ENOUGH TO CRY ABOUT
PLANNING MY EVENING MEAL IS MORE URGENT.
NARUMI-SAN, YOU'RE HEART-LESS!!
AN OGRE!
A DEMON!!
DON'T BAD MOUTH ME!
BUT NOT CRYING WHILE WATCHING "A DOG OF FLANDERS" IS WEIRD!
IT'S THE WAY I AM!!

AM I NOT WEAK ENOUGH TO CRY
OR HAVE I JUST BECOME COMPLETELY COLD?

...THAT'S RIGHT, I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I LAST CRIED
...DAMN, SHE'S SO LOUD!


NO MATTER WHICH ONE IT IS...
IT'S ANIKI'S FAULT ...

L.A.L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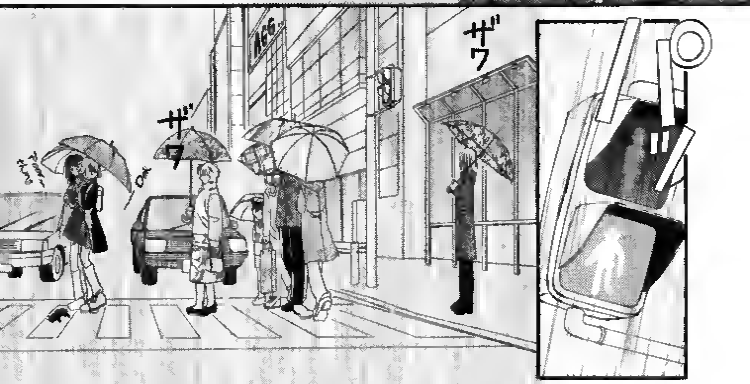
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...NOT BEING ABLE TO CRY IN HARD TIMES...
IS NOT A SAD THING...
I don't have what it takes to be sad ——...

Yaa, Eyes!
IL IL IL IL IL
ガチャ
IL IL IL IL IL IL!
IL IL
ガチャ
IS IT KANONE ?
ビュオ
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I WANT TO HEAR YOUR ANSWER AGAIN
IF I HUNT ALL OF BLADE CHIL-DREN AS A "HUNTER"..
Eyes ...
What will you do?

WILL YOU BE A "HUNTER" TOO?
OR WILL YOU BE THE HESITANT "SAVIOR"?
...KANONE
I'LL STOP YOU FOR SURE!
...SO, WE REALLY NOW ARE ENEMIES.

HOW SAD...

—I wonder when I forgot how to cry.

KANONE
..
I WON'T LET YOU DO AS YOU LIKE_
...I...
I didn't throw away my tears
for us to perish as mere "Pathetic Blade Children"...

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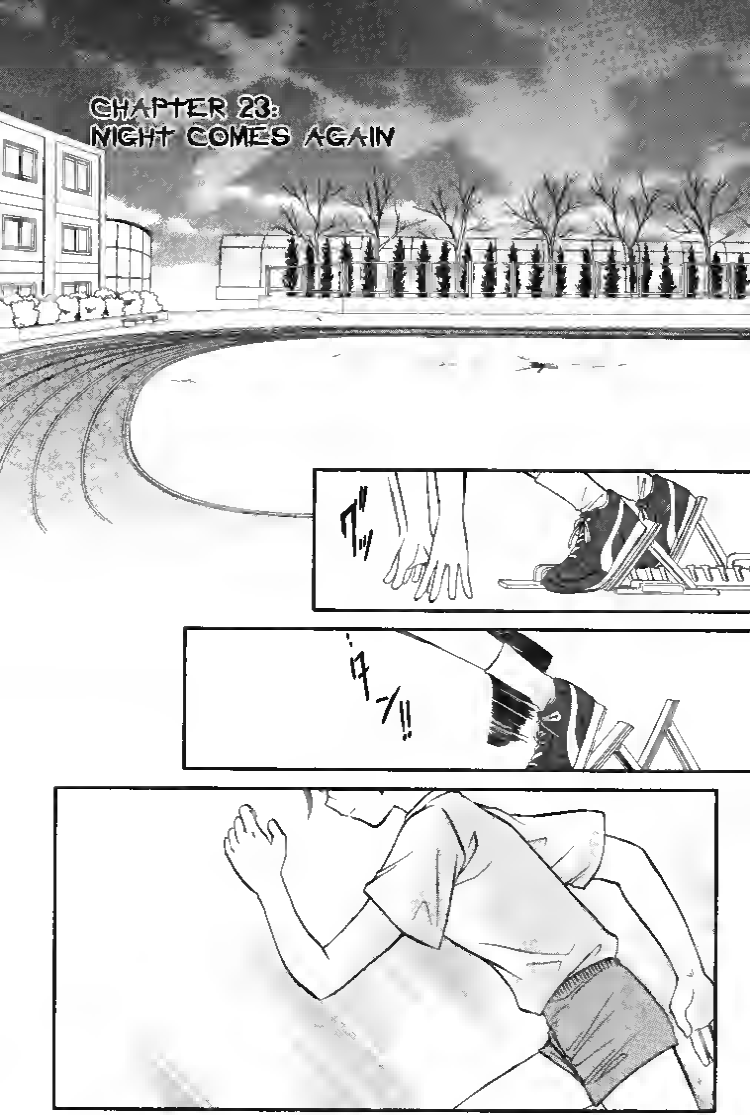
CHAPTER 23:
NIGHT COMES AGAIN



CHAPTER 23: NIGHT COMES AGAIN

TAKA-MACHI-SEN-PAI!
LET'S FINISH FOR TODAY!
OH
AFTER I RUN ONE MORE ROUND.

.....
SINCE WHEN HAVE I...
BEEN DOING... THIS...

A
YU

THAT'S DANGER-OUS!!
DON'T DO WEIRD THINGS WHILE I'M HOLDING A KITCHEN KNIFE!
WAH!
-KUN
I WANT TO EAT WITH MY CUTE OTOUTO ONCE IN A WHILE SO I CAME HOME EARLY ♡
ARE YOU HAPPY ?
U fu fu
!!!
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, NEE-SAN
I THOUGHT YOU WERE WORKING LATE TODAY?
KUH
DON'T DWELL ON SUCH SILLY THINGS AND PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR JOB.

"SILLY"? HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?
YOU'RE HARD TO INFLU-ENCE.
がばっ
HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING, TOO?
Damn.
すぅすぅ
YOU REALLY DON'T LOVE YOUR SISTER-IN-LAW!!
すっ
DON'T COMPARE ME TO ANIKI.
IF IT WAS KIYOTAKA-SAN, HE WOULD'VE BEEN HAPPY!

I CAME BACK EARLY
BE-CAUSE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
.....
トン
YOU WEREN'T ACTING NORMAL LATELY.
PLEASE TELL ME WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON ALREADY.
I'M FINE NOW.

...FOR A WHILE I FEEL THAT THIS KID HAS BECOME REALLY FAR AWAY...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT LITLE THINGS.
NEE-SAN, THINK ONLY ABOUT ANIKI.

JUST LIKE KIYO-TAKA-SAN...

BECAUSE THAT UNIVERSITY SCOUT IS COMING.
BY THE WAY, TAKAMACHI-SENPAI, YOU'RE AMAZING.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE SET A NEW INTER HIGH'S 100 METER RECORD FOR 3 YEARS IN A ROW.
ISN'T THAT LIKE THE DREAM OF EVERYONE IN THE WORLD?!
...I'M REALLY THANKFUL THEY LET ME GO TO A UNIVERSITY JUST LIKE THAT, BUT
I'M FINE LIKE THIS.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

WELL, SENPAI, GOOD BYE.
YES
TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME!
ペコッ
.....
...THERE IS NO WAY...
I CAN GO TO THE UNI-VERSITY ...

AFTER ALL I'M A BLADE CHILDREN...
I CAN'T WISH FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE ...HUH
.....
IT SEEMS YOU'VE NOW QUITE FAMOUS IN THE WORLD OF TRACKING,
RYOU -KO!

WHO'S THAT?
IF IT ISN'T RUTHER-FORD.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
ALTHOUGH YOUR FACE DISGUSTS ME.

...SOON ANOTHER "HUNTER" WILL ENTER TSUKIOMI SCHOOL.
.....
!!!
ALTHOUGH YOU OPPOSE US, YOU HAVE THE SAME POWERS
AS ONE OF THE BLADE CHIL-DREN.

THE BLADE CHIL-DREN?
DOES SHE REALLY SUSPECT I WAS DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH
IS IT OKAY FOR THEM TO KNOW THAT WE, WHO ARE CRIMI-NALS, HAD A STRONG CON-NECTION WITH KIYOTAKA?
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SAY IT!!

IF I DO, IT'LL ONLY MAKE NEE-SAN WORRY...!
.....
カチ
STOP IT! NOW TELL ME THE TRUTH.

I'M NOT GOING TO GET IN YOUR WAY
IT'S OBVIOUS YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.
BUT YOU'RE SAYING YOU'LL KILL ME IN INSTEAD?
I DON'T CARE IF ANY OF THE OTHERS ARE "HUNTED".
I'VE GOT NO REASON TO SAVE THEM

I JUST DON'T WANT TO WORK WITH YOU!!
YOU'RE BEING AIMED AT TOO.
IT'LL BE FOR THE BEST IF YOU WORK WITH US.
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU OR KIYO-TAKA!!
IF YOU DIDN'T EXIST
KOUSUKE WOULDN'T ...

KOUSUKE WOULDN'T
BECOME A KILLER...
... YOU SHOULD UNDER-STAND..
.....
TSK
ぼすっ

IT'S FATE THAT OUR HANDS, THE HANDS OF THE BLADE CHIL-DREN, ARE SMEARED IN BLOOD
NO MATTER HOW FAST YOU RUN ...
YOU HAVE NO FUTURE.
RYOU -KO!
YOU HAVE YOUR POWERS.

NO MATTER WHAT YOU'LL TELL ME, I WON'T BE SHOCKED OR BLAME YOU.
LEND THEM TO US.
SO PLEASE TELL ME.

I DIDN'T THINK SO...
...THAT'S WHY,
DID YOU THINK IF YOU SAID IT LIKE THAT I'D REALLY TALK?
I HAVE A PRO-POSAL.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO JUST LEAVE ME ALONE,
...ABOUT YOUR REQUEST.
SO HOW ABOUT THIS?

LET'S HAVE A GAME!
LET'S RESOLVE THIS WITH A GAME.

IF YOU WIN, I'LL WORK WITH YOU.
IF YOU WIN, I WON'T ASK A THING.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR BLANK FACE EVER AGAIN!
BUT IF I WIN
YOU'LL TELL ME EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU UP UNTIL NOW.
IF I'M THE ONE WHO WINS,

AS IF I'D DO THAT KIND OF TROUBLESOME THING.
WHA-?
HEY!!
DA
KA
SO YOU WON'T TELL ME YOUR STORY AFTER ALL!?
You're really not bound to manipulate!!
...

...FINE, THEN,
I WILL ACCEPT YOUR MATCH.

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CHAPTER 24:
MOVING TARGET

RYOU
-KO!
WHAT KIND OF GAME ARE YOU PLAN -NING TO PLAY HERE?

I REALLY HATE USING MY HEAD.
TAP
TAP

SO WE'LL HAVE A SIMPLE REFLEX GAME.
IT'S A GAME WE PLAY AT OUR CLUB.
ALTHOUGH WE USUALLY PLAY IT BETTING ON JUICE.
.....
THIS'S A BALL MADE WITH RUBBER THAT LITTLE KIDS USE TO PLAY BASEBALL.
IS THE LITTLE RICH ENGLISH BOY NOT FAMILIAR WITH THOSE KIND OF THINGS?

SO ...?
YOU USE 3 BALLS
DO YOU KNOW HOW TO THROW A BALL?
...CAN I THROW ANY WAY I LIKE?
YOU CAN JUST THROW IT FORWARD

THIS IS ABOUT 8 METER...
...AL RIGHT!
...NOW,

I'LL EXPLAIN THE RULES.
LISTEN UP, RUTHERFORD.
YOU THROW YOUR 3 BALLS FROM THERE.
IF ONE OF THE BALLS HITS ME, YOU WIN.
IF NONE HIT ME, IT'S YOUR LOSS.

YOU'RE NOT LIMITED TO ONE BALL AT A TIME.
YOU CAN THROW WITHOUT GIVING ME TIME TO RECOVER TOO.
IF YOU CAN, YOU CAN THROW 3 BALLS AT ONCE
BUT
IF THE BALL HITS THE GROUND ONCE, IT DOESN'T COUNT.
OF COURSE I CAN AVOID THE BALLS COMING AT ME.
IF I DIDN'T, IT WON'T BE INTERESTING, WILL IT?

IT'S ABOUT DYNAMIC VISION AND REFLEXES
I'M PRETTY CONFIDENT IN MY REFLEXES.
THINK IT OVER,
AND HIT ME
WITH JUST ONE BALL.
ALSO
YOU CAN STEP FORWARD WITH YOUR THROW, BUT KEEP YOUR DISTANCE
YOU ALWAYS DO IT FROM THERE.
IN THIS GAME YOU HAVE 3 CHANCES TO HIT A MOVING TARGET.
IT'S SIMPLE!

...I GET THE RULES.
IT'S A BALL GAME WHERE YOU CAN HURT YOUR FINGERS.
IT'S NOT FITTED FOR A GREAT PIANIST, BUT,
IF YOU WANT ME TO TEAM UP WITH YOU,
YOU GOTTA DO THIS MUCH!
YEAH.
I GOT IT!

* The finals of the baseball in Japan
I'M AN ACE IN FAST SPEED BALLS OF THE KOSHIEN* CLASS.
ALL OF THE GUYS FROM OUR BASE-BALL CLUB HAD TRIED, BUT,
NO ONE COULD HIT ME
BY THE WAY, I'M STILL UNDE-FEATED IN THIS GAME
...MAYBE THEY COULDN'T HIT YOU BECAUSE
THEY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE IDEA OF THIS GAME.
... HEEH?
SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU UNDER-STAND IT?

THAT'S RIGHT.
THIS IS NO SIMPLE GAME OF "DODGE BALL".
RA-THER
IT'S CLOSER TO CHESS USING JUDGMENT AND INGE=NUITY.
...I DON'T SEE IT AS A BALL GAME....
AND I KNOW HOW TO WIN THIS.

サク
ビュッ
YOU'VE HIT 100 OF 100, KA-NONE.
THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S A FIXED TARGET.

BUT IF YOU CAN'T HIT A FIXED TARGET,
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HIT A MOBILE TARGET, TOO, RIGHT?
NOT QUITE.
IF YOU PRACTICE, YOU CAN EVEN DO IT BLINDFOLDED.
#7
A MOBILE TARGET
スコッ
IS DIFFERENT IN EVERYTHING, BECAUSE IT CAN REACT BY HOW YOU AIM.
EVEN WITH A REALLY EFFICIENT RIFLE,
IF YOU'RE NOT FIRST-RATE AT SNIPING, YOUR CHANCES ARE REALLY SLIM.

IN THE END IT WAS TERRIBLE.
EVEN AT JUST 5 METERS, I LET A WILD BUNNY RUN AWAY.

ONCE, BECAUSE I...
COULD HIT FIXED TARGETS, MY MOTHER TOOK ME ON A HUNT.

..YOU'D BETTER REMEMBER THAT,
EYES

Ha Ha
AND I ALSO COULDN'T AIM AT BIRDS.

NO MATTER HOW YOU PRACTICE,
FROM THE START, EVEN WITH OUR TOOLS AND SKILLS, YOU CAN'T HIT A TARGET THAT'S RUNNING AWAY
TO HIT, MORE THAN YOU NEED THE TOOLS OR THE SKILLS,
YOU HAVE TO READ THE TARGET'S THINKING,
AND BE READY TO SET TRAPS FOR IT.
IT'S LIKE CHESS.
IF YOU SAY IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND
YOU CAN EASILY HIT A TARGET WITHOUT USING ANY TOOLS.
...I SEE.

サァー
ヒュッ
スッ

ANY-WAY...
IT'S BETTER TO PRAC-TICE!

I'VE LEARNT MANY THINGS FROM YOU...
KANONE
.....
AS EXPECTED FROM RUTHER-FORD,
HE'S NOT AN IDIOT.

THE BALL IS A LIGHT RUBBER BALL
EVEN A PRO PITCHER CAN'T THROW IT REAL FAST
AND WHEN YOU'RE 8 METERS AWAY,
IT LOOKS CLOSER THAN IT REALLY IS SO YOU CAN EASILY DODGE
— SO IN THIS GAME NO MATTER HOW FAST YOU THROW IT, YOUR OPPONENT CAN ALWAYS DODGE THE BALL.
SO YOU NEED TO GET THE OPPONENT INTO A POSITION WHERE NO MATTER HOW SLOW THE BALL IS, HE CAN'T DODGE.
YOU WON'T TRY HITTING THE OPPONENT BY JUST CHUCKING THE 3 BALLS
YOU'LL READ THE OPPONENT'S WAY OF DODGING AND DISRUPT HIS MOVEMENT
YOU'LL THINK ABOUT THROWING THE TWO FIRST BALLS TO BREAK THE OPPONENT'S POSTURE

YOU'LL "SACRIFICE" THESE TWO BALLS, SO TO SPEAK.
YOU KNOW YOU WON'T HIT ON THE FIRST SHOT.
AIMING FOR THE LEG.
THIS WAY YOU CAN MAKE THE OPPONENT FALL WITH FREQUENT ATTACKS.
YOU CAN THROW WHILE DIVERTING THE OPPONENT'S ATTENTION.
YOU CAN ALSO INVITE A SITUATION WHERE THE OPPONENT "FREEZES" FOR A SECOND.
AND THEN YOU USE THE THIRD BALL TO END IT.
HOW WILL YOU USE THE 2 FIRST BALLS AIMING FOR THIS?
THIS MATCH DEPENDS ON YOU CREATING A SITUATION WHERE I CAN'T DODGE THE THIRD BALL.

IT'S THE SAME AS CHESS ..
IF YOU CAN TAKE THE OPPONENT'S KING IN THE END,
YOU WON'T MIND WASTING THE OTHER UNITS.
THAT'S THE ESSENCE OF THIS GAME!
YOU ALSO NEED THE JUDGMENT TO CHANGE YOUR AIM INSTANTLY AFTER SEEING HOW THE FIRST BALL WAS DODGED.
OF COURSE THERE'S ALSO CONTROLLING THE PLACE HIT AND THE REFLEXES TO HIT THE 2ND AND 3RD RAPIDLY.
THIS GAME,
REALLY USES INGENUITY AND JUDGMENT AND REFLEXES
IT'S A REALLY HARD GAME

IT'S ALSO HARD ON MY SIDE.
OF COURSE, IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO JUDGE AND WATCH FOR HOW YOU DODGE A BALL COMING AT YOU WITH YOUR REFLEXES... UNTIL THE 3RD BALL...
ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE ONE DODGING,
HAS TO READ THE OPPONENT'S AIM AND THINK HOW TO DODGE WITHOUT FALLING
YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST ME!
BUT

I HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE
EVEN IF YOU TRY MAKING ME FALL WHILE DODGING, I STILL HAVE MY REFLEXES
I DON'T THINK I'M INFERIOR TO YOU
ALSO
WHEN IT COMES TO INGENUITY AND JUDGMENT.
...?

...HOW WILL HE SET UP THE PITCHING ORDER?
I'LL PERFECTLY DODGE IT UNTIL THE THIRO BALL!
I'M READY IN HERE!
THROW AT ME WHEN-EVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT!
.....

RYOU-KO!
I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING BEFORE I THROW.
WHAT'S THAT?
I WON'T USE THE TACTIC WHERE I BREAK YOUR POSTURE
WITH THE FIRST TWO BALLS AND THEN HIT YOU WITH THE THIRD
...THEN
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?

...RYOU
-KO..
HERE'S
MY PRO
-MISE.
さわり

THE FIRST BALL.

I WILL HIT YOU WITH THIS FIRST BALL!!

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A big thank of Hdr for helping us on this chapter. [^_^]V

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CHAPTER 25:
LIKE A SWAN
HERE'S MY PRO-MISE.
THE FIRST BALL.
I WILL HIT YOU WITH THIS FIRST BALL!!

CHAPTER 25:
LIKE A SWAN

KUH...
WHAT'S HE PLANNING?!
IS IT JUST A PATHETIC BLUFF?!
..SO
SHALL WE BEGIN THE GAME?

HE'S REALLY RUTHER-FORD!
THIS PRES-SURE IS DIFFER-ENT!
.....
TSK

HE WINS AGAINST HIS OPPONENTS WITH THAT SPIRIT.
...IF I GET NERVOUS, I'LL LOSE.
CALM DOWN ...
I CAN READ HIS TACTIC ...!!

NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO WITH THE FIRST BALL, IT WON'T HIT.
THIS IS THE GAME'S THEORY.
DESPITE THAT, HE GAVE ME THAT WEIRD PROMISE.
THE FIRST BALL.
I WILL HIT YOU WITH THIS FIRST BALL.
WHY ...?
--- THAT'S IT!!

SO HE'LL PROBABLY THROW THE BALL STRAIGHT UP,
A BALL I'LL BE FOCUSED ON.
AND SO MY EYES WILL LOOK UP WHILE FOLLOWING THE BALL.
IT WILL BE IN A BLINK OF AN EYE, BUT
I'LL TAKE MY EYES OFF OF RUTHERFORD,
HE'LL FORCE ME TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE BALL THAN NEEDED,
AND MAKE ME FOCUS ON BEING CAUTIOUS!!
WITHOUT HESITATION,
HE'LL THROW THE REMAINING 2 BALLS!

IN A NORMAL FORM, THERE IS A TIME TO RECOVER AFTER THE FIRST TWO BALLS, BUT---
WITH THAT FORM
HE SHIFTS THE ELBOW AND THEN USES A WRIST SNAP.
WITH THIS MOVEMENT, LIKE THROWING A KNIFE, HE CAN THROW A BALL FROM BELOW IN AN INSTANT.
IT'S ALSO EASY TO THROW IT UP...
THE PITCHING TIME SHOULD BARELY MAKE HIS POSTURE COLLAPSE.
THE TIME BETWEEN TWO BALLS IS SMALL
ALSO, HE'S A PIANIST WHO CAN PLAY THE PIANO WITH BOTH HANDS FREELY.
THEY SHOULD BOTH WORK WELL.
HE CAN THROW THE BALL WITH HIS LEFT HAND THE SAME AS HE CAN WITH HIS RIGHT HAND

THE MOMENTARY GAP WILL BECOME THE FATAL SPEED...
HE'LL RELEASE THE SECOND BALL WITHIN LESS THAN A SECOND
THAT MEANS, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THROWING WITH HIS RIGHT,
ALSO... EVEN IF I DODGE THE SECOND BALL IN THAT GAP, IT STILL WON'T BE OVER.
EVEN WHEN HE THROWS THE 3RD BALL
HE'LL STILL HAVE THE FINISHING BALL!!
ACCORDING TO THE RULES I'LL CAN STILL USE THIS BALL
THE FIRST BALL THAT HE THREW UP WILL
DROP INTO HIS HANDS WITHOUT TOUCHING THE GROUND

THE PROBABILITY THE BALL HE THROWS WILL HIT IS HIGH.
NO MATTER HOW I'LL DO IT, MY POSTURE WILL BREAK
AFTER DODGING THE TWO BALLS IN THAT GAP
HE'LL USE ONE BALL AS A FEINT AND A FINISHER!
I SEE...
SUCH AN IMPUDENT MOVE FITS RUTHERFORD.
AND HIS DECLARATION WON'T BE A LIE,
BECAUSE HE'LL SURELY HIT ME WITH THE BALL HE THREW IN THE START.

THIS POSTURE...
IT LOOKS LIKE HE HOLDS THE TWO BALLS IN HIS LEFT HAND,
SO I CAN'T BE WRONG, HE'LL USE THIS TACTIC.
IT'S PROBABLY THE BEST TACTIC...
HE!...
EVEN IF YOU CAN READ IT, DODGING WILL DEPEND ON THE CONCENTRATION POWER.

I'LL BE THE ONE TO WIN!
BUT...
YOU GOTTA ADMIRE HIM
HE PLANNED WELL FOR A GAME HE WAS SUDDENLY CHALLENGED TO.
I'LL JUST DODGE IT!
THROW IT! RUTHERFORD!

CAN YOU DO IT?
TODAY'S NOT YOUR LUCKY DAY.

JUST AS I THOUGHT ----!!
ピカッ!

LIKE I PRE-DICTED, THIS BALL IS A FEINT!!

IT'S UP!
.....
AS EXPECT-ED!

YOU'RE NOT DISTRACTED AT ALL.
NO WASTED MOVEMENTS.
HeH
YOU'RE NAIVE, RUTHERFORD!
I SEE THROUGH YOUR MOVE

...NO
YOU ARE THE NAIVE ONE.
RYOU -KO!
CHECK MATE.

...I PROMISED YOU,
THE FIRST BALL WILL HIT YOU, NO?
.....
...NO WAY...

HE DIDN'T THROW THE BALL UPWARDS
HE THREW IT SO IT FELL EXACTLY ON ME?!
HOW COULD HE DO IT WITH SUCH A WEIRD THROWING METHOD?!
IF THE BALL FELL 10 CMS FORWARD IT WOULD MISS!!
THAT CAN'T BE A FLUKE!!
HOW DID IT HIT?!
IT WAS AN ATTACK FROM THE SKY!!

...IN THE PAST THERE WAS A PERSON WHO TOLD ME,
"IT'S BETTER TO PRAC-TICE"
OF SO SHE SAID.
DON'T SAY THINGS I CAN'T UNDER-STAND!
YOU DON'T PLAY BALL GAMES!
AND YET YOU DID THIS THE FIRST TIME? IT'S IM----...
IS IT REALLY HIS FIRST TIME?
FIRST?

MAYBE HE...
KNEW FOR CERTAIN I'D NEVER AGREE TO WORK TOGETHER WITH NO OBJECTIONS.
AND BECAUSE IT'S MY PERSONALITY, I'LL PROBABLY TRY DRIVING HIM AWAY BY CHALLENGING HIM TO A GAME
AND IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT THIS GAME WILL BE SOMETHING I'M USED TO AND HAVE A HIGH CHANCE OF WINNING.
NO WAY! DID HE CHECK ABOUT ME AHEAD OF TIME AND LEARN OF THIS GAME'S EXISTENCE...?
AND KNOWING I'LL CHALLENGE HIM TO THIS GAME HE HAD A PLAN PREPARED...?
—It is possible...

I WAS CONVINCED I HAD READ RUTHERFORD'S TACTIC
SO HE DIDN'T MOVE WHEN HE SAW I DIDN'T CHASE THE BALL WITH MY EYES AFTER HE THREW IT UPWARD
BUT IN DOING SO, I BECAME A STILL AND A PERFECT TARGET.
ON A NORMAL OCCASION, I COULD HAVE DODGE A SLOW BALL FALLING FROM THE SKY EASILY.
MY READING HIM WAS PART OF HIS PLAN.
IT WAS A MENTAL TRAP TO TURN ME INTO A FIXED TARGET!

I ENTERED THIS MATCH WITHOUT KNOWING THE RISK!
NO
HE DEFINITELY DID IT UNTIL HE STARTED BLEEDING!
SURELY FOR THIS HE ALSO PROBABLY HAD PITCHING PRACTICE...
I WAS HIS PUPPET FROM THE START...!!
NO WAY!
THIS MEANS THAT

TO PRACTICE THROWING THE BALL
DIDN'T YOUR PRECIOUS FINGERS GET HURT?
...ALL OF THIS WAS JUST TO DRAG ME IN...
YOU WENT THROUGH SO MUCH TROUBLE
?
...DON'T SAY THAT...
THAT IS JUST HOW MUCH YOU'RE WORTH.

.....DAMN,
YOU'RE JUST LIKE A SWAN.
Desperately swimming so you won't go under the water...
You're definitely not showing that manner—

WAIT UNTIL THEN.
I'LL CONTACT YOU WITH YOUR NEXT INSTRUC-TIONS.
WAIT.
.....
I DEFI-NITELY WON'T AGREE TO KILL A PER-SON!
AL-THOUGH I'M HELPING YOU,

I WON'T KILL,
EVEN IF THE OPPONENT IS A "HUNTER".
IF I HAVE TO KILL HIM, I'LL CHOOSE HOW TO DO IT.
I UNDERSTAND
...HUH?
THAT'S WHY YOU ARE NEEDED.

THIS "HUNTER"...
...I WANT TO STOP HIM WITHOUT KILLING HIM IF I CAN.
SO YOU'RE THE ONE I CAN RELY ON THE MOST FOR THAT.
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
WON'T YOU KILL WITHOUT HESITATION IF YOU JUST HEAR "HUNTER"?
.....
!
DO YOU MEAN THAT KANONE HILBERT HAS BECOME A "HUNTER"..?

RYOU-KO.
...I'M RELYING ON YOU...
.....
RUTHERFORD...
ALTHOUGH YOU ARE HATEFUL...
IF YOU WOULD'VE TOLD ME FROM THE START,
I REALLY WOULDN'T OBJECT TO HELPING YOU OUT
...WHAT'S THIS?

I SYMPA
-THIZE
WITH
YOU...
JUST A
LITTLE
BIT...
1F
ER
Kanone...
ギッ
.....
ガタ

Kanone... I will definitely stop you!!

脈動を始める、運命の螺旋――。

そして、ついに現れた運命の来訪者、カノン・ヒルベルト!!

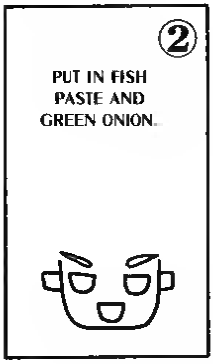
彼は最後の時を「ハンター」として生きると決めた――…。

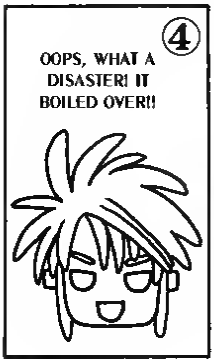
次巻、運命の鼓動は、その激しさを増す!!

To be continued. Please wait!

Spiral work diary

—— Drawing Ayumu-kun ——





Heffun
JUST LIKE THAT WE'VE FINISHED AYUMU-KUN!
IF YOU CAN LIFT THE EYES A LITTLE, PUT THE HAIR LINE TO THE LEFT, AND PUT IN THE SIDEBURNS, YOU'LL SEE A PERFECT AYUMU-KUN.
WELL, THE JOKE ASIDE,
WITH THAT, LET'S MEET IN THE NEXT VOLUME.

原作者あとがき

第4巻ではページの構成上お会いできませんでしたが、城平京でございます。コミックスも第5巻とあいなりまして、まだまだごひいきの皆様に喜んでいただける内容になっていれば幸いです。

さすがに二十話を越えますと物語は大きく広がり始め、登場人物も一筋縄ではいかない連中が増えてきます。この巻初登場の二人は今後の物語において鍵となる予定です、特にカノン・ヒルベルトはいろいろやらかしてくれるはずです。こいつはファンの声など無視して暴走してくれるに違いないとにらんでいるのですよ。いやー、楽しみですねー。血煙が舞いそうです。

期待の新キャラを装填してますますまともなミステリ・マンガから遠ざかる『スパイラル』ですが、「パートはミステリだ」と開き直って続けていきたいと思います。

またガンガンWINGで『スパイラル』のサイド・ストーリーにあたる『スパイラル・アライヴ』というものの連載を隔月でやっていたりします。

どれくらいサイドかというと、『スパイラル』に登場する人物がまるで出てこない（出てきてもせいぜい名前だけ）というくらいサイドな話です。いったい何をやっているのか不審に思われた方は、そちらもご覧ください。

ところで、ファンの皆様からキャラのプロフィールを教えてください、という質問が多

く寄せられるようになりました。第3巻の「螺旋制作日記」でも触れられていましたし。

原作者としてはこの要望に応えるべきなのですが、物語の都合上、わけあってまだ公表できないところがあったりするのです（断じて考えるのがめんどくさいとか、そんなのどうでもいいじゃないか、とかは思ってません。思ってませんとも）。だから申し訳ないのですが、プロフィールはしばしお待ちのほどを。

ただ歩とまとかに関しましては、ドラマCD「いつの間にやらそんなものが出ていたのですよ」でちょっとした項目を公表したりしています。今はそれでお許しください。

最後にいつもの宣伝ですが、カンガンNET（http://www.enix.co.jp/gangan/）で鳴海清隆を探偵役とする外伝小説を掲載しております。だいたいコミックスの発売に合わせて新作をアップしておりますから、プレゼントクイズもあったりするので、アクセスできる方はどうぞよしなに。

アクセスできないけれど外伝を読んでみたい、という方は、やはりエニックスから出版されております小説スパイラル～推理の絆～ソードマスターの犯罪」というノベルスに書き下ろし作品とともに外伝の第一話と第二話が収録されておりますので、そちらでお試しください。

では第6巻でお会いできることを祈りつつ。

城平京

ガンガンコミックス

スパイラル 推理の絆

スパイラル 推理の絆 5

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